

Intermediate Phonetics & Phonology

Spring 2011

Tuesday/Thursday 9:10–10:30

OSH 233

Instructor: Aaron Kaplan

Office: LNCO 3205

Office Hours: Monday 10:00–11:00, Tuesday 12:00–1:00 **Email:** aaron.kaplan@utah.edu

Course Content

This course starts where LING 4010/6010 left off. Knowledge of that material is assumed: articulatory, acoustic, and perceptual phonetics; phonemes and allophones; writing linear rules; distinctive features; and neutralization. We'll continue to look at new kinds of phonological phenomena, and we'll ask whether our theory, as it currently stands, gives us a satisfactory understanding of the new data. If it doesn't, we will modify our theory accordingly. Thus we will begin with the familiar rule-based theory from 4010/6010, but we will quickly see reasons to shift to Autosegmental Phonology and eventually Optimality Theory. Your homework will require you to use the latest version of our theory, and perhaps propose your own modifications. Thus while there is a strong theoretical component to the course, our progress is ultimately driven by the data we encounter.

Course Requirements

Prerequisite: Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology (LING 4010/6010)

Reading & Homework: There is no textbook for this course—be sure to take good notes! Some material will be posted on WebCT (<http://webct.utah.edu/>). If you miss class, it is your responsibility to get the material you missed from a classmate. In addition, there will occasionally be handouts posted on WebCT that you will need to print out and bring to class. I'll announce these ahead of time.

There are three required assignments and three optional assignments; see the schedule below for due dates. These exercises will require a significant amount of work outside of class. Assignments must be turned in **at the beginning of class** on the day they are due. All work must be typed and stapled. To avoid plagiarism, always cite your references carefully—this often means attaching a works cited page to the assignment. Late homework will not be accepted unless you've made specific arrangements with me.

If you don't have access to special symbols as you type your homework, feel free to replace them with other similar-looking characters—just make sure you are consistent in your replacement, and please define your notation at the beginning of your write-up. You can download IPA fonts at the SIL website:

http://www.sil.org/computing/catalog/show_software.asp?id=91

Experiment Participation: You must participate in one experiment in the Speech Acquisition Lab over the course of the semester. This will typically take up to one hour. If for any reason you are not comfortable participating in an experiment for credit in this course, you must tell me **before March 1, 2011**, so that an alternative assignment can be arranged.

After you participate in the experiment, you must write a one-page (double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins) typed description of the experiment:

- What were you asked to do?
- How do you think it relates to topics we are covering in class?

This is due on the last day of class. For more information and to sign up for experiments, please visit the Speech Acquisition Lab website at:

<http://www.linguistics.utah.edu/speechlab/expsignup.html>

Quizzes: To provide feedback more often, there will be three short quizzes throughout the semester. These will be done at the end of class on the days they're assigned; see the schedule below.

Final Project: In lieu of a final exam, students are required to complete an individual research project. The assignment is a simple one: find a phenomenon we haven't talked about in class and develop an analysis of it using the theory from class. To help you get going, there will be assignments—such as a topic proposal and a bibliography—throughout the semester. I'll have more details about the project later in the semester. LING 6011 students will be expected to develop a deeper, more detailed analysis than LING 4011 students; again, more on that later.

6011: Paper Presentations: In groups of two or three, 6011 students must read and present one of the papers below (they'll be on WebCT). See the schedule below dates of the presentations.

McCarthy, John J. (1988) "Feature Geometry and Dependency: A Review." *Phonetica* 43, 84–108.

Padgett, Jaye (1994) "Stricture and Nasal Place Assimilation." *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 12.3, 465–513.

Mester, R. Armin & Junko Ito (1989) "Feature Predictability and Underspecification: Palatal Prosody in Japanese Mimetics." *Language* 65.2, 258–293.

Kisseberth, Charles W. (1970) "On the Functional Unity of Phonological Rules." *Linguistic Inquiry* 1.3, 291–306.

Grading: We will use the following 9-point grading scale. Be aware that these numbers are just labels for grades. So if you get a 4 on an assignment, it does not mean you got 4/9 = not passing! It means you got a C.

9	Outstanding	A+
8	Excellent	A
7	Good/Excellent	A/B
6	Good	B
5	Fair/Good	B/C
4	Fair	C
3	Passing/Fair	C/D
2	Passing	D
1	Not passing	E

Final grades will be computed as follows:

<u>LING 4011 students</u>		<u>LING 6011 students</u>	
Homework problems	45%	Homework problems	35%
Experimental Participation	5%	Experimental Participation	5%
Quizzes	10%	Quizzes	10%
Final Project	40%	Final Project	40%
		Paper presentation	10%

Attendance: You will not be able to pass the course without coming to class: much of what we do is unique in the details, and you won't be able to find outside material to compensate for what you miss. If you miss a class, it is up to you to borrow notes from someone, get homework, etc.

Academic Honesty, Access

Cheating will not be tolerated. While you are encouraged to discuss course material with each other, your write-up must be done independently. If you have questions about what is allowed, please ask the instructor. See this website for more information about academic integrity: <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Schedule

Here is a **very** tentative schedule for the semester. Dates and topics may change depending on how the semester goes.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Topics</i>	<i>Assignment</i> (date due)	<i>Project</i> (date due)	<i>Quiz?</i>
1	Jan. 11	introduction, review, and preview			
	Jan. 13	Rule ordering: opacity & transparency			
2	Jan. 18	Autosegmental Phonology			
	Jan. 20				
3	Jan. 25	Feature Geometry	Optional A		
	Jan. 27	Redundancy Rules & Markedness			
4	Feb. 1	Vowel harmony			✓
	Feb. 3				
5	Feb. 8	The OCP	Assignment 1		
	Feb. 10				
6	Feb. 15	6011: McCarthy (1988)			
	Feb. 17	6011: Padgett (1994)			
7	Feb. 22	Underspecification & Privativity			
	Feb. 24				
8	March 1	Underspecification continued	Optional B	topic	
	March 3				
9	March 8	6011: Mester & Ito (1989)			✓
	March 10	Syllabification		bibliographic exercise	
10	March 15	Feet and stress			
	March 17				
	March 22	<i>Spring Break</i>			
	March 24				
11	March 29	Prosodic Morphology	Assignment 2		
	March 31				
12	April 5	Rules vs. constraints	Optional C		
	April 7	Conspiracies & constraints			
13	April 12	6011: Kisseberth (1970)			
	April 14	Optimality Theory		abstract	
14	April 19	Syllables in OT			
	April 21	Segmental phenomena in OT	Assignment 3		✓
15	April 26	Segmental phenomena in OT			

Final paper due by 2:00pm on Wednesday, May 4, 2011